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4 February 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Frank Slatinshek, Assistant Chief Counsel, House Armed Services Committee, Re Subcommittee Business

1. This afternoon I asked Mr. Slatinshek where we stood so far as CIA Subcommittee matters were concerned. He said that Chairman Hebert had just been formally installed as Chairman and the first executive session of the Committee would be early next week. He said he had recently talked with Representative Leslie Arends who mentioned seeing the Director and gaining the impression that the Director understood the whole matter of the handling of Agency matters was still up in the air. Arends had said this was not the same impression he had gotten from Hebert. I told Slatinshek what the Director had told me after his meeting with Hebert--namely they plan to try to handle the matter by having the Agency brief the full Committee on intelligence, but deal privately with the Chairman and maybe one or two others on Agency matters. However it was understood that this was an interim measure which might not work out over the long haul. I said the misunderstanding, if any, probably arose from differing interpretations of just how permanent the new arrangement would be. Slatinshek agreed.

2. In response to his question, I told Slatinshek I thought sooner or later we should have something that could be called an Agency Subcommittee, for the protection of both the Agency and the Committee. Slatinshek agreed, but pointed out that neither Hebert nor Price were available to chair such a committee. I said I didn't see anything wrong with Representative Fisher, although I hoped they wouldn't go too far down the seniority list. Slatinshek said he fully agreed and, strictly off the record, thought this was the solution that would eventually emerge.

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